Example of early log cabin, built by John Ulrich Probst, Sr. and his son Jacob at Midway.

three logs across the room forming several bunks. Most beds were fitted with straw ticks.[3]

The table and benches that constituted the common



Example of early log cabin, built by John Ulrich Probst, Sr. and his son Jacob at Midway.

items of furniture were made of slabs and at times there would be some especially prized item, such as a cupboard which the family had carried across the plains. The floors were dirt for the most part, although wooden floors were not unknown. The fireplace was used both for heating and cooking; and since matches were unobtainable, the pioneers started fire with flint or borrowed a light from their neighbors. Borrowing fire was an early morning ritual. John Huber notes that the family who raised the first smoke in the morning could count on someone immediately coming in with a fire

[3]Dorothy Holmes, "Personal Interview with Henry Van Wagener," MSS, (Daughters of Utah Pioneers Historical Collection, Heber City, 1933).

